

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 RANGOO 01032 231137Z  
ACTION AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02  
USIA-06 AID-05 EB-08 NSC-05 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-07  
OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00 /071 W  
-----101613 232317Z /13  
R 230859Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5116

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RANGOON 1032

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EAGR, BM  
SUBJ: BURMA'S 1977/78 RICE CROP

REF: RANGOON 0993

1. A RECENT PUBLIC STATEMENT BY THE COMMANDER OF RANGOON DIVISION PROVIDES FURTHER EVIDENCE OF A SHORTFALL IN BURMA'S 1977/78 PADDY CROP AND IN GUB PADDY COLLECTIONS. THE COMMANDER STATED THAT GUB PADDY PURCHASES IN RANGOON DIVISION AS OF MARCH 20 WERE ONLY 13.3 MILLION BASKETS (ONE BASKET EQUALS 42 LBS) OUT OF A TARGET OF 21.4 MILLION BASKETS TO BE COLLECTED BY MARCH 31. HE WARNED THAT "ACTION WOULD BE TAKEN" AGAINST FARMERS WITH A FAVORABLE PADDY HARVEST WHO FAILED TO SUPPLY THEIR FULL QUOTA TO THE GOVERNMENT. HE WENT ON TO SAY, HOWEVER, THAT ASSISTANCE WOULD BE GIVEN TO FARMERS WHO EXPERIENCED A LOWER YIELD OF PADDY DUE TO "UNAVOIDABLE CIRCUMSTANCES."

2. FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS THERE HAVE BEEN NO REPORTS OF GOVERNMENT COERCION OR THREATS OF COERCION TO FORCE FARMERS TO SELL THEIR FULL QUOTAS TO THE GOVERNMENT. ALTHOUGH COLLECTION TARGETS WERE NOT MET IN THOSE YEARS, THE GOVERNMENT WAS COLLECTING ALL THE PADDY IT COULD REASONABLY HANDLE.  
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THIS YEAR THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS REPORTS OF GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO FORCE FARMERS TO SELL THEIR PRESCRIBED PADDY QUOTAS TO THE GOVERNMENT. THIS INDICATES THAT OFFICIAL COLLECTIONS ARE FALLING FAR SHORT OF EXPECTATION.

3. THE COMMANDER'S OFFER OF ASSISTANCE TO FARMERS WHO HAD

POOR YIELDS DUE TO UNAVOIDABLE CIRCUMSTANCES IS ALSO  
REVEALING. DESPITE OFFICIAL STATEMENTS WHICH HAVE MINIMIZED  
THE CROP LOSS DUE TO DROUGHT AND POOR HARVEST CONDITIONS,  
THE STATEMENT INDICATES A RECOGNITION THAT AT LEAST SOME  
FARMERS HAVE HAD UNFAVORABLE PADDY CROPS DUE TO SOME FACTOR  
BEYOND THEIR CONTROL--THE WEATHER.  
BEAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** RICE, FIELD CROPS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978RANGOO01032  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780129-0293  
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**Office:** ACTION AGRE  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
**Reference:** 78 RANGOON 993  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3224775  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BURMA'S 1977/78 RICE CROP  
**TAGS:** EAGR, BM  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014